Therefore, I urge upon the Government to immediately announce at least one summer special to Madras and back per day till the end of June in order to ease the summer rush. So, also the proposed Rajdhani should be run every day instead of once a week fulfilling the long-pending public demand.

STATEMENT OF MINISTER

U.S. Action designating India as a priority foreign country under its special 301 Legislation

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Sir, we note with regret the decision of the U.S. Government to continue to designate India as a Priority Foreign Country under its Special 301 legislation for alleged deficiencies in our patent system. It has been our consistent stand that such issues are best resolved through the multilateral, system and that unilateral action by any country must be avoided. Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) is a subject of negotiations under the on-going Uruguay Round multilateral trade negotiations. With respect to patents, the availability of drugs at affordable prices is a matter of foremost concern to the Government. In our view a patent system must recognise both the rewarding of an inventor and vital public interest needs. We will continue to impress upon the U.S. Government that these issues must be resolved through the multilateral system and any unilateral action on their part is unwarranted.

श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम : स्टेटमेंट पर क्लेरिफिकेशंस कल ले लिए जाएं ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI MD. SALIM): No, there are 11 Members who want to seek clarifications. If the Members so wish, we can take up the clarifications later on.

Mr. Minister, will you be available tomorrow ?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Yes.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI MD. SALIM): In that case, as per the wishes of the House, we will take up clarifications tomorrow. The House stands adjourned till 11.00 a.m. tomorrow.

The House then adjourned at forty-four minutes past four of the clock till eleven of the clock on Tuesday, the 11th May, 1993.

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